

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-23. (cancelled)

Claim 24. (new) A method of recovering a liquid medium from a mixture containing the liquid medium, the method comprising:

(a) blowing a first gas into the mixture containing the liquid medium to vaporize the liquid medium, in a first vaporizing means, thereby to form a second gas which is a mixture of the first gas and vaporized liquid medium;

(b) continuously dropwise feeding the mixture containing the liquid medium into a second vaporizing means and counter-flowingly contacting the mixture containing the liquid medium with the second gas to vaporize additional liquid medium to form a third gas which is a mixture of the second gas and additional vaporized liquid medium; and

(c) feeding the third gas into a condensing means to condense the vaporized liquid medium into a liquid and separate the first gas, which is then blown into the first vaporizing means in step (a).

Claim 25. (new) A method of recovering a liquid medium from a mixture containing the liquid medium, the method comprising:

contacting the mixture comprising the liquid medium with a first gas to vaporize the liquid medium in a vaporizing means to form a second gas which is a mixture of the first gas and vaporized liquid medium, and feeding the second gas into a condensing means to condense the vaporized liquid medium and separate the first gas;

using the first gas separated from the liquid medium by condensation as the first gas to be contacted with the liquid medium; and

regulating the partial pressure of the vaporized liquid medium in the vaporizing means by a partial pressure regulating means; wherein

the condensing of the second gas in the condensing means comprises partially condensing the vaporized liquid medium in a first condensing means, and further cooling and completely condensing the vaporized liquid medium in a second condensing means; and

returning a part of the first gas and the vaporized liquid medium discharged from the vaporizing means through a conduit means in the partial pressure regulating means to the vaporizing

means while flowing together with the separated first gas without passing through the first condensing means and the second condensing means and regulating the partial pressure of the vaporized liquid medium by controlling the flow rate of the vaporized liquid medium returning to the vaporizing means through the conduit means.

Claims 26. (new) The recovering method according to claim 24 or 25, wherein the recovery of the liquid medium is carried out where the first gas is circulated through a closed system under reduced pressure; or vaporization is carried out at a temperature of the boiling point or lower of the liquid medium when the liquid medium is vaporized; or the recovery of the liquid medium is carried out where the first gas is circulated through a closed system under reduced pressure and vaporization is carried out at a temperature of the boiling point or lower of the liquid medium when the liquid medium is vaporized.

Claim 27. (new) A recovering system of a liquid medium from a mixture containing the liquid medium, the system comprising:

a vaporizing portion having a first vaporizing means and a second vaporizing means, in the first vaporizing means, a first

gas is blown into the mixture containing the liquid medium to vaporize the liquid medium to form a vaporized medium, thereby to form a second gas which is a mixture of the first gas and vaporized liquid medium; continuously feeding the mixture containing the liquid medium into the second vaporizing means and counter-flowingly contacting the mixture containing the liquid medium, which is dropwise continuously fed, with the second gas to vaporize additional liquid medium to form a third gas which is a mixture of the second gas and additional vaporized liquid medium;

a condensing portion having a condensing means into which the vaporized liquid medium in the third gas is condensed to separate the first gas;

a first separated gas supplying portion in which the first gas, separated in the condensing portion, is supplied as the first gas to be contacted with the liquid medium in the first vaporizing means; and

a second separated gas supplying portion in which the second gas is used as the gas to be contacted with the liquid medium.

Claim 28. (new) The recovering system of a liquid medium according to claim 27, wherein the counter-flow contact of the mixture and the second gas is conducted using a double-helical pipe having a straight-pipe distilling portion and a spiral pipe disposed in the distilling portion, in which the mixture is allowed to flow down an outer surface of the spiral pipe and an inner surface of the distilling portion and the second gas is passed from a lower part toward an upper part of the vaporizing portion.

Claim 29. (new) A recovering system of a liquid medium which comprises:

a vaporizing portion in which the liquid medium is vaporized to form a vaporized medium by contacting a plurality of mixed liquids with a gas, the mixed liquids containing the liquid medium and at least one non-volatile substance;

a condensing and separating portion in which a condensed medium and a separated gas are separated by cooling the gas and the vaporized medium fed from the vaporizing portion;

a gas feeding portion in which the separated gas is fed to the vaporizing portion as the gas; and

a partial pressure regulating portion which contains a conduit means which returns a part of the gas and a part of the vaporized medium discharged from the vaporizing portion to the vaporizing portion while flowing together with the separated gas without passing through the condensing and separating portion and the partial pressure of the vaporized medium is regulated by controlling the flow rate of the vaporized medium returning to the vaporizing portion through the conduit means.

Claim 30. (new) The recovering system of a liquid medium according to claim 29, wherein the condensing and separating portion comprises a first condensing means for condensing the vaporized medium by cooling, and a second condensing means for condensing the vaporized medium passed through the first condensing means by further cooling.

Claim 31. (new) The recovering system of a liquid medium according to claim 29 or 30, which further comprises a temperature-maintaining and heating portion of the vaporizing portion.

Claim 32. (new) The recovering system of a liquid medium according to claim 29 or 30, which further comprises a supplying portion for feeding the vaporized medium generated by the vaporizing portion to the vaporizing portion as the gas.

Claim 33. (new) The recovering system of a liquid medium according to claim 31, which further comprises a supplying portion for feeding the vaporized medium generated by the vaporizing portion to the vaporizing portion as the gas.

Claim 34. (new) The recovering system of a liquid medium according to claims 29 or 30, wherein the vaporizing portion serves to vaporize the liquid medium by blowing the gas to the liquid medium and to simultaneously concentrate the mixed liquid containing the liquid medium.

Claim 35. (new) The recovering system of a liquid medium according to claim 31, wherein the vaporizing portion serves to vaporize the medium by blowing the gas to the liquid medium and to simultaneously concentrate the mixed liquid containing the liquid medium.

Claim 36. (new) The recovering system of a liquid medium according to claim 32, wherein the vaporizing portion serves to vaporize the medium by blowing the gas to the liquid medium and to simultaneously concentrate the mixed liquid containing the liquid medium.

Claim 37. (new) The recovering system of a liquid medium according to claim 33, wherein the vaporizing portion serves to vaporize the medium by blowing the gas to the liquid medium and to simultaneously concentrate the mixed liquids containing the liquid medium.